

STATE OF NEW YORK
LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM A. BUYERS
ON HIS 86TH BIRTHDAY

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, to be held in the Legislative Chambers of Old County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 17th day of March, 2016 A.D., a proclamation will be adopted, of which the following is a true copy:

WHEREAS, William A. "Bill" Buyers, a living legend and the real life embodiment of the term longevity, marked his 86th Birthday on March 11, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Embarking on a career of Public Service as an 18-year-old kid in 1948 in an entry level position with the City of Buffalo, Bill enlisted in the Army and served in the 11th Airborne Division volunteering for service in the Korean War. Upon his return in 1953, he worked for the Erie County Sheriff's Department and, after graduating from Canisius College, the truly amazing epic saga of "Uncle Bill's" unmatched public employment and political acumen was captured forever in the annals of Buffalo History; and

WHEREAS, Elected as a Republican in 1962 to the Buffalo Common Council serving as Minority Leader of that August Body, Bill established himself not as the political powerbroker dictating from a lofty position, but as a dedicated and committed servant of the people and a workaholic advisor, mentor and tireless worker on the campaigns of countless Federal, State, County and City candidates seeking office that encompassed the northern section of the City of Buffalo, including prominent roles in the campaigns of Mayors Kowal, Griffin, Masiello, and Brown; and

WHEREAS, Bill has often been characterized as one who survived after changes of political party authority or movements of political faction leadership, but a more accurate description is that Bill thrived through the turnover because he had established himself as one who brings a wealth of knowledge, experience and ability as a valuable asset to administrators; and

WHEREAS, As the Human Resources Commissioner under Mayor Griffin, Bill focused his energies on improving recreational and educational opportunities for youth. Under Mayors Masiello and Brown, he initiated and built the Mayor's Impact Team, a fast response unit comprised of manpower, equipment, and resources from Public Works, Streets, Strategic Planning, Sewer Authority, Inspections, Law and other City departments as needed to clean vacant lots, bring derelict properties into code compliance, improve the quality of life, and help to develop pride in neighborhoods throughout the City of Buffalo. The Impact Team has lived up to its name and has been recognized around the State and the Country as a Best Practice Initiative by a Municipality that now has been copied throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, Bill's continued and tireless commitment to our community has never wavered as evidenced by the monthly community breakfast he sponsors which gives hundreds of residents the opportunity to regularly interact and have problems addressed by governmental, business, and community stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, Bill's marriage to his wife Donna is another testament to Bill's longevity and flirtation with immortality, as the couple recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in February. From this loving union comes six grown children, 15 Grandchildren, 10 Great Grandchildren, and one Great-Great Grandchild.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature pause in its deliberations to honor and congratulate William A. "Bill" Buyers on the occasion of his 86th birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we join with all of the people in Erie County in recognizing William A. Buyers for his countless achievements, his commitment to the betterment of our region, and his never quit attitude that has him working day to day in the community he loves.

Hon. Peter J. Savage, III
Erie County Legislator, 3rd District

Karen M. McCarthy
Clerk of the Erie County Legislature